AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS, IRELAND.

GENERAL ABSTRACTS

SHOWING

THE ACREAGE UNDER THE SEVERAL CROPS,

AND THE

NUMBER OF LIVE STOCK,

IN

EACH COUNTY AND PROVINCE,

FOR THE YEAR

1856.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.

DUBLIN:
PRINTED BY ALEXANDER THOM AND SONS, 87, ABBEY-STREET,
FOR HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE.
1856.

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SHOWING

THE ACREAGE UNDER THE SEVERAL CROPS,

AND THE

NUMBER OF LIVE STOCK,

IN EACH COUNTY AND PROVINCE, FOR THE YEAR 1856.

TO HIS EXCELLENCY GEORGE WILLIAM FREDERICK EARL OF CARLISLE, K.G., &c.

LORD LIEUTENANT-GENERAL AND GENERAL GOVERNOR OF IRELAND.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,

On the 20th of August I had the honour of submitting for your Excellency's consideration a return showing, by counties and provinces, the acreage under flax in 1855 and 1856, and the increase or decrease in the latter year; I now beg to submit general abstracts of the extent of land under crops, and the number and description of live stock in each county and province, in the same years.

The numbers for the latter year have been compiled from returns lately procured by the Constabulary and Metropolitan Police, who have acted as enumerators in their usual efficient manner. On further revision some slight alterations in the figures may be necessary, but so unimportant, that for all practical purposes the tables may be regarded as correct.

Success of Enumeration.

Your Excellency is aware that the information given to the Constabulary is altogether voluntary; and I feel assured it will afford pleasure to your Excellency to learn, as, I beg to say, it is most gratifying to me to have it in my power to state, that so far as I am informed by the enumerators—who amounted to nearly 4,000—hostility to the collection of these returns has been displayed by only one landed proprietor in Ireland,—a fact most highly creditable to the good feeling and intelligence of all ranks and classes in this country. It would appear from the reports of the enumerators, that instructions were issued to the tenantry of the proprietor referred to,—whose estates are situated in the counties of Leitrim and Donegal,—not to afford the required information as to their crops, or the number of live stock on their farms. I have therefore taken the returns made to me in 1855 for their holdings, as being the same in 1856. In reference to this subject I feel it due to the tenant-farmers on these estates to acquaint your Excellency that in former years they afforded all the information required by the enumerators, with the same confidence and good feeling so universally exhibited by their intelligent fellow-countrymen; and but for the directions issued to them in 1856 not to do so, it is reasonable to conclude that they would in this year have followed a similar enlightened course.

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GENERAL ABSTRACT, showing, in Statute Acres, the extent of LAND under CROPS for each COUNTY and PROVINCE,

	Provinces and Counties.	Wheat.		Oats.		Barley, Bere, Rye, Beans, and Peas.		Potatoes.		Turnips.		Other Green Crops.		Flax.		Meadow and Clover		Total Extent under Crops.		
		1855.	1856.	1855.	1856.	1855.	1856.	1855.	1856.	1855.	1856.	1855.	1856.	1856.	1855.	1855.	1856.	1855.	1856.	
	LEINSTER:	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	
1	Carlow, .	9,575	11,715	25,781	23,984	5,066	3,760	11,061	12,475	5,965	5,575	1,262	1,267	81	159	25,550	25,863	84,139	85,096	1
2	Dublin, .	14,199	17,349	24,323	22,782	4,860	4,035	11,977	13,373	3,484	3,570	4,094	3,787	1	1	45,267	44,193	103,805	104,969	2
3	Kildare, .	20,698	22,823	43,749	41,175	6,199	4,137	14,231	15,900	11,226	11,123	1,927	2,144	9	4	49,597	46,792	147,636	144,098	3
4	Kilkenny, .	37,277	40,129	53,148	50,008	8,678	6,520	22,626	25,254	12,679	12,624	3,195	2,855	45	40	47,409	46,517	185,257	183,933	4
5	King's, .	16,574	20,244	32,628	31,375	5,661	4,441	21,772	23,848	8,375	9,639	2,564	2,541	254	238	40,062	40,377	130,365	132,703	5
6	Longford, .	2,353	2,847	38,541	36,693	320	497	16,258	17,262	2,730	2,300	936	1,224	262	383	20,156	21,038	81,364	82,947	6
7	Louth, .	9,674	14,951	36,530	34,228	22,028	20,195	12,010	14,659	9,235	9,027	2,548	2,615	190	219	17,286	18,131	111,501	114,005	7
8	Meath, .	18,764	25,898	80,881	78,302	4,876	3,633	19,235	21,398	9,904	9,261	4,005	4,007	266	213	64,646	60,557	208,527	201,269	8
9	Queen's, .	21,500	23,927	32,587	30,661	9,683	6,967	20,375	23,491	14,231	14,166	1,968	1,634	7	8	51,931	50,637	152,772	150,923	9
10	Westmeath, .	4,611	6,605	54,638	51,123	1,535	1,443	13,503	19,464	6,462	5,924	2,356	2,572	197	203	40,648	38,462	123,950	125,156	10
11	Wexford, .	23,926	29,329	36,100	00,958	41,929	38,034	27,680	28,100	10,265	16,997	4,947	4,631	825	1,551	45,736	46,571	247,416	246,422	11
12	Wicklow, .	6,622	9,097	36,314	35,230	4,600	3,485	11,844	13,438	4,523	4,557	1,090	1,261	1	2	55,037	53,326	120,031	120,396	12
	TOTAL OF LEINSTER,	187,771	221,211	553,465	516,739	115,443	97,147	200,230	229,072	105,079	105,565	30,902	30,766	2,138	3,032	503,725	492,402	1,707,803	1,695,936	
	Increase or Decrease in LEINSTER,	Increase, 33,440 Acres.		Decrease, 36,726 Acres.		Decrease, 18,296 Acres.		Increase, 20,792 Acres.		Decrease, 514 Acres.		Decrease, 134 Acres.		Increase, 894 Acres.		Decrease, 11,323 Acres.		Total Decrease, 11,867 Acres.		
	MUNSTER:	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	
1	Clare, .	9,363	11,694	39,270	37,790	13,330	9,524	35,743	39,120	8,383	7,755	2,386	2,615	692	949	52,292	51,998	161,586	161,443	1
2	Cork, .	49,873	57,896	150,006	152,226	39,141	32,515	81,066	90,167	53,694	52,649	10,625	11,462	2,397	1,569	104,447	104,947	491,259	502,931	2
3	Kerry, .	2,789	3,549	86,356	85,825	8,206	6,379	32,114	33,810	9,796	10,206	2,315	3,053	535	1,039	58,070	56,570	150,241	150,131	3
4	Limerick, .	17,149	22,577	45,455	42,131	12,057	7,537	55,725	43,428	11,394	9,866	2,771	2,877	243	230	71,292	72,330	196,084	200,970	4
5	Tipperary, .	54,330	58,927	78,255	74,161	11,659	7,504	52,127	00,712	29,747	28,546	4,222	4,465	103	99	83,934	81,976	314,377	316,390	5
6	Waterford, .	24,332	26,009	30,846	30,362	9,471	7,368	18,846	19,946	11,984	12,150	3,149	3,496	43	49	17,631	17,364	116,352	117,164	6
	TOTAL OF MUNSTER,	157,766	180,152	380,188	372,695	93,864	70,827	255,624	287,103	124,998	121,166	[illegible],470	27,968	4,253	3,935	387,718	385,125	1,429,878	1,449,049	
	Increase or Decrease in MUNSTER,	Increase, 22,386 Acres.		Decrease, 7,493 Acres.		Decrease, 23,037 Acres.		Increase, 31,559 Acres.		Decrease, 3,832 Acres.		Increase, 2,496 Acres.		Decrease, 318 Acres.		Decrease, 2,591 Acres.		Total Increase, 19,170 Acres.		

ABSTRACT OF CEREAL CROPS.

	1855 Acres.	1856. Acres.	Increase. Acres.	Decrease. Acres.
WHEAT, ...	445,775	529,363	83,588	—
OATS, ...	2,118,858	2,036,181	—	82,677
BARLEY, BERE, RYE, &c., . . .	267,931	218,503	—	49,428
TOTAL, ...	2,832,564	2,784,047	83,588	132,105

Decrease on Cereal Crops, in 1856, ... 48,517 Acres.

Total extent, in Statute Acres, of CEREAL and GREEN CROPS grown in IRELAND in 1852, 1853, 1854, 1855, and 1856 :—

	Wheat.	Oats.	Barley, Bere, Rye, Beans, and Peas.	Potatoes.	Turnips.	Other Green Crops.	Flax.	Meadow and Clover.
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
1852, .	353,566	2,283,449	339,591	576,532	336,790	121,565	187,008	1,270,713
1853, .	326,896	2,157,849	348,642	698,735	399,377	120,183	174,579	1,270,742
1854, .	411,284	2,045,298	297,154	989,660	329,170	98,777	151,403	1,257,964
1855, .	445,775	2,118,858	267,931	982,801	366,953	95,136	97,075	1,314,807
1856, .	529,363	2,036,181	218,503	1,104,590	354,362	99,073	106,326	1,302,983

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in 1855 and 1856; that for the latter year has been compiled from Returns lately received from the Enumerators.

Provinces and Counties.	Wheat. 1855.	Wheat. 1856.	Oats. 1855.	Oats. 1856.	Barley, Bere, Rye, Beans, and Peas. 1855.	Barley, Bere, Rye, Beans, and Peas. 1856.	Potatoes. 1855.	Potatoes. 1856.	Turnips. 1855.	Turnips. 1856.	Other Green Crops. 1855.	Other Green Crops. 1856.	Flax. 1855.	Flax. 1856.	Meadow and Clover. 1855.	Meadow and Clover. 1856.	Total Extent under Crops. 1855.	Total Extent under Crops. 1856.	
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	
Ulster:																			
1 Antrim,	11,659	14,881	90,749	97,659	4,574	4,132	47,034	54,356	12,881	10,216	2,600	2,812	6,727	6,030	53,894	53,381	236,748	243,368	1
2 Armagh,	12,239	14,840	73,978	74,455	2,455	1,985	31,854	35,555	6,099	7,240	3,174	2,919	9,308	10,917	25,058	26,361	171,766	174,172	2
3 Cavan,	866	1,463	91,368	96,405	700	910	31,233	35,071	3,175	2,756	2,952	3,249	6,034	6,024	34,957	33,903	171,361	169,761	3
4 Donegal,	2,921	4,623	108,767	109,135	7,296	6,250	41,558	48,570	16,628	15,156	2,606	2,852	15,779	17,654	32,859	34,355	228,426	236,504	4
5 Down,	30,352	38,025	142,671	135,182	15,363	12,373	47,213	54,416	22,147	19,216	4,750	4,002	11,176	13,510	36,360	38,541	310,552	315,855	5
6 Fermanagh,	1,416	2,122	49,875	38,764	1,110	1,099	18,227	20,201	4,252	3,617	1,681	1,832	2,005	1,934	34,714	32,933	104,290	102,699	6
7 Londonderry,	3,201	5,424	91,990	87,017	2,084	2,368	31,583	35,464	11,451	10,301	1,454	1,545	11,785	13,959	20,379	22,310	174,337	178,380	7
8 Monaghan,	3,466	4,942	83,562	78,244	3,711	3,436	25,399	29,184	7,061	6,903	2,129	2,440	11,358	12,137	15,377	16,404	152,563	153,710	8
9 Tyrone,	4,701	6,663	153,782	151,564	1,530	1,744	48,648	51,410	15,235	13,867	2,977	3,530	13,230	14,746	30,842	32,192	265,958	273,736	9
Total of Ulster,	70,251	92,983	390,762	358,446	39,429	34,315	310,149	364,227	100,427	89,481	24,325	25,222	87,912	96,911	284,761	290,976	1,816,016	1,852,563	
Increase or Decrease in Ulster,	Increase, 22,732 Acres.		Decrease, 32,316 Acres.		Decrease, 5,114 Acres.		Increase, 46,078 Acres.		Decrease, 10,946 Acres.		Increase, 897 Acres.		Increase, 8,999 Acres.		Increase, 6,217 Acres.		Total Increase, 36,547 Acres.		
Connaught:	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	
1 Galway,	18,606	20,793	81,347	79,119	10,300	8,844	52,853	60,846	15,637	17,472	8,242	8,850	544	582	45,904	44,352	233,723	241,288	1
2 Leitrim,	291	396	23,780	27,590	507	501	23,537	25,102	1,075	871	1,198	1,515	710	630	26,593	28,355	84,779	85,120	2
3 Mayo,	4,038	6,086	63,543	84,249	5,396	4,252	59,037	67,230	9,558	10,604	2,103	2,227	745	923	18,229	16,964	163,337	192,535	3
4 Roscommon,	4,151	5,091	59,257	57,143	463	746	36,793	40,635	4,735	5,027	1,732	2,120	386	436	30,214	31,356	137,756	142,614	4
5 Sligo,	2,101	2,651	41,516	40,200	2,334	1,791	28,028	30,288	4,446	4,170	1,079	1,205	379	377	15,660	13,941	95,543	94,576	5
Total of Connaught,	29,207	35,017	294,443	288,301	19,195	16,214	200,248	224,103	35,449	38,150	14,459	15,917	2,772	2,948	136,605	135,478	735,138	756,133	
Increase or Decrease in Connaught,	Increase, 5,030 Acres.		Decrease, 6,142 Acres.		Decrease, 2,981 Acres.		Increase, 23,860 Acres.		Increase, 2,701 Acres.		Increase, 1,478 Acres.		Increase, 176 Acres.		Decrease, 3,127 Acres.		Total Increase, 20,995 Acres.		
Total of Ireland,	445,775	329,533	2,113,853	2,036,181	267,931	218,503	982,801	1,104,590	366,959	354,362	95,126	99,873	97,075	103,826	1,314,307	1,308,983	5,853,896	5,753,881	
Increase or Decrease in Ireland,	Increase, 83,558 Acres.		Decrease, 82,677 Acres.		Decrease, 49,428 Acres.		Increase, 122,289 Acres.		Decrease, 12,591 Acres.		Increase, 4,737 Acres.		Increase, 9,751 Acres.		Decrease, 10,824 Acres.		Total Increase, 64,845 Acres.		

ABSTRACT OF GREEN CROPS.

	1855. Acres.	1856. Acres.	Increase. Acres.	Decrease. Acres.
Potatoes,	982,801	1,104,590	122,289	—
Turnips,	366,958	354,362	—	12,591
Other Green Crops,*	95,136	99,873	4,737	—
Total,	1,444,890	1,558,825	127,026	12,591

Increase on Green Crops, in 1856, . . . 114,435 Acres.

GENERAL SUMMARY.

		Acres.
Increase on Green Crops,		114,435
Do. on Flax,		9,751
		124,186
Deduct Decrease on Cereal Crops,	48,517	
Do. on Meadow and Clover,	10,824	
		59,341
Total Increase in the extent of Land under Crops,		64,845

* Mangel Wurzel, Beet-root, Carrots, Parsnips, Cabbage, Vetches, and Rape, are included under this head.

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General Abstract, showing the quantity of Live Stock in each County and Province, in 1855 and

	Provinces and Counties.		Horses, with the purposes for which they are kept. Two years old and upwards. Agricultural.	Traffic and Manufacture.	Amusement or Recreation.	One year old and under two years.	Under one year.	Total Number of Horses.	Cattle. Milch Cows.	Other Cattle. Two years old and upwards.	One year old and under two years.	Under one year.	Total Number of Cattle.	Sheep. One year old and upwards. Ewes.	Tups and Wethers.	Under one year.	Total Number of Sheep.	Pigs. One year old and upwards.	Under one year.	Total Number of Pigs.	
	Leinster:																				
1	Carlow,	1855,	5,251	135	377	775	373	7,409	15,644	9,484	8,102	9,150	42,380	27,967	15,807	19,534	62,308	6,847	17,076	23,923	1
		1856,	5,290	156	386	766	708	7,336	15,962	9,609	8,519	8,268	42,358	24,461	16,327	16,897	59,685	3,868	12,425	16,293	
2	Dublin,	1855,	6,719	5,447	3,878	1,146	1,239	18,429	15,308	13,292	7,558	6,612	42,771	19,699	18,283	9,201	43,183	4,993	13,326	18,319	2
		1856,	7,085	6,041	4,160	1,361	1,031	19,678	15,046	14,383	6,005	5,549	41,783	20,342	12,469	15,603	48,411	3,743	12,513	16,256	
3	Kildare,	1855,	8,878	36[illegible]	1,023	1,301	1,761	13,521	15,198	34,249	13,710	11,351	74,488	57,767	37,917	31,910	127,614	3,639	12,354	15,993	3
		1856,	9,118	1,606	1,061	2,260	1,092	15,129	16,042	36,452	13,719	9,571	75,784	50,924	40,467	37,798	129,189	3,055	9,057	12,112	
4	Kilkenny,	1855,	12,328	545	664	1,802	2,175	17,514	43,404	13,611	16,270	19,821	93,106	42,179	18,369	32,459	93,527	14,995	39,016	54,002	4
		1856,	12,096	487	732	1,968	1,833	17,056	47,105	16,369	16,520	17,717	97,821	33,453	18,916	30,230	87,599	11,073	29,105	40,178	
5	King's,	1855,	9,377	260	496	1,357	2,041	14,081	18,47[illegible]	20,718	10,327	9,314	59,337	53,418	35,321	42,446	131,185	4,815	17,657	22,472	5
		1856,	9,766	169	476	1,561	1,830	14,267	18,610	19,57[illegible]	11,730	7,286	57,204	46,006	33,711	41,294	128,011	3,116	11,886	15,004	
6	Longford,	1855,	4,645	199	201	1,003	1,257	7,305	20,74[illegible]	8,944	8,297	10,389	48,378	14,371	5,568	9,468	29,419	3,242	12,718	15,960	6
		1856,	4,996	194	197	1,064	1,189	7,642	21,17[illegible]	8,258	8,312	9,672	47,417	11,567	5,260	9,208	26,035	2,595	9,012	11,607	
7	Louth,	1855,	6,229	379	530	1,471	1,514	12,133	9,691	9,244	6,894	6,278	32,107	19,779	3,118	8,815	31,712	3,463	10,748	14,232	7
		1856,	6,431	277	518	1,527	1,575	12,328	10,246	8,571	6,902	5,762	31,481	20,516	2,978	16,946	40,440	2,531	9,486	12,017	
8	Meath,	1855,	13,808	731	1,356	3,766	3,626	23,310	19,669	74,954	24,611	16,251	135,485	83,744	43,524	43,314	170,582	7,916	15,407	23,425	8
		1856,	14,038	684	1,461	4,115	3,398	23,646	20,178	80,910	25,850	13,875	140,813	76,767	46,424	84,898	189,029	5,000	12,546	17,546	
9	Queen's,	1855,	8,849	379	604	1,358	1,518	12,723	24,843	16,637	12,519	13,734	66,733	41,496	26,931	29,986	98,413	6,681	21,445	28,126	9
		1856,	9,288	331	576	1,577	1,472	13,244	25,06[illegible]	20,026	12,404	9,466	66,953	35,446	26,940	26,212	88,603	4,394	16,922	21,316	
10	Westmeath,	1855,	8,839	277	679	2,195	2,516	14,506	20,300	27,92[illegible]	17,254	14,599	80,081	61,974	35,009	50,165	147,088	5,785	14,602	20,387	10
		1856,	8,943	358	690	2,436	2,299	14,726	20,582	30,852	16,990	12,912	81,236	52,717	39,064	47,620	139,401	3,628	10,979	14,602	
11	Wexford,	1855,	13,673	439	71[illegible]	2,312	2,670	25,010	33,739	14,675	16,558	20,237	90,269	53,790	21,327	41,123	121,240	17,051	47,104	64,155	11
		1856,	19,172	691	712	2,473	2,386	25,439	39,906	16,992	18,983	18,748	94,629	55,251	25,131	42,647	123,029	12,263	37,783	50,046	
12	Wicklow,	1855,	7,623	510	620	1,245	1,299	11,303	27,691	16,966	12,563	14,738	72,158	73,321	39,027	42,331	160,579	4,264	15,761	20,025	12
		1856,	7,776	447	582	1,382	1,144	11,331	28,816	18,026	13,892	13,046	73,780	71,787	48,614	47,517	167,918	3,177	11,552	14,729	
	Total of Leinster,	1855,	119,111	8,693	11,156	20,746	22,469	177,194	269,395	263,763	155,163	149,454	837,225	559,525	296,221	369,094	1,216,430	82,301	237,220	319,510	
		1856,	116,787	10,555	11,661	22,582	20,319	182,724	278,520	280,046	160,626	131,766	851,258	508,179	321,309	397,870	1,227,358	58,440	183,266	241,706	
	Increase or Decrease in Leinster,		Increase, 3,676	Inc. 1,137	Inc. 451	Inc. 2,136	Decr. 1,970	Increase, 5,530	Increase, 3,915	Increase, 17,343	Increase, 5,463	Decrease, 17,688	Increase, 14,033	Decrease, 51,346	Increase, 25,088	Increase, 37,186	Increase, 10,928	Decrease, 24,361	Decrease, 53,943	Decrease, 78,304	
	Munster:																				
1	Clare,	1855,	11,503	183	403	1,553	2,141	15,671	59,276	26,666	22,333	26,689	135,363	75,721	27,007	50,213	152,951	15,568	29,903	45,469	1
		1856,	11,537	332	593	1,703	1,948	16,213	57,372	27,668	24,077	21,959	131,076	70,704	28,626	54,248	153,578	11,918	18,901	30,811	
2	Cork,	1855,	36,743	1,673	2,336	5,862	6,657	55,271	167,844	33,493	42,757	54,508	302,794	183,565	42,968	110,868	337,421	49,355	92,393	141,748	2
		1856,	39,729	1,686	2,486	6,137	6,053	56,078	167,914	40,711	47,572	49,120	305,317	179,429	42,478	121,303	343,210	35,747	74,781	110,531	
3	Kerry,	1855,	9,447	393	470	1,186	1,621	13,044	167,063	33,129	26,035	37,267	264,433	66,461	17,023	33,463	110,947	22,606	25,091	47,697	3
		1856,	9,329	416	449	959	1,474	13,129	116,166	32,459	26,235	34,225	206,085	67,234	17,351	38,366	123,951	17,696	21,202	38,900	
4	Limerick,	1855,	12,017	614	362	1,780	2,018	17,266	80,760	19,627	16,093	31,222	159,710	35,965	16,560	28,449	80,914	23,513	38,215	61,728	4
		1856,	12,583	667	903	1,857	1,772	17,782	91,012	19,909	17,262	32,238	160,421	34,965	16,459	25,732	77,156	17,793	32,553	50,346	
5	Tipperary,	1855,	19,621	590	1,275	3,059	3,249	28,094	86,06[illegible]	37,050	26,535	35,426	187,035	117,341	54,514	87,361	266,216	31,422	61,198	92,620	5
		1856,	20,751	682	1,315	3,355	2,906	29,009	86,616	39,537	32,327	31,722	190,792	102,482	56,406	83,904	242,794	19,940	49,336	69,276	
6	Waterford,	1855,	9,311	394	649	1,191	1,434	12,979	42,560	18,745	11,114	15,237	79,676	26,733	6,712	18,224	53,674	20,459	33,158	53,617	6
		1856,	9,677	463	624	1,589	1,268	13,361	43,023	11,304	12,674	13,261	80,262	26,426	6,344	19,732	51,502	16,832	26,760	42,642	
	Total of Munster,	1855,	100,742	3,657	6,078	14,599	17,118	142,345	552,711	165,657	146,017	203,571	1,069,056	501,501	164,724	329,598	996,123	162,930	280,563	443,493	
		1856,	104,105	4,298	6,850	16,400	15,421	146,584	556,123	171,048	162,647	182,525	1,072,059	481,243	168,166	362,777	992,153	119,178	225,536	344,709	
	Increase or Decrease in Munster,		Increase, 3,363	Inc. 431	Inc. 272	Inc. 847	Decr. 1,694	Increase, 3,219	Increase, 3,122	Increase, 5,791	Increase, 15,730	Decrease, 21,046	Increase, 3,897	Decrease, 20,261	Increase, 3,442	Increase, 13,179	Decrease, 3,940	Decrease, 43,750	Decrease, 57,027	Decrease, 100,777	

Total Quantity of Live Stock in Ireland, in each of the Years 1852, 1853, 1854, 1855, and 1856.

	No. of Horses.	No. of Cattle.	No. of Sheep.	No. of Pigs.
1852,	525,088	3,095,067	2,613,948	1,072,658
1853,	532,785	3,383,309	3,142,056	1,144,945
1854,	545,929	3,497,901	3,732,219	1,342,549
1855,	556,267	3,564,400	3,602,342	1,177,605
1856,	573,266	3,584,723	3,688,143	915,933
	Increase.	Increase.	Increase.	Decrease.
Difference in Numbers from 1852 to 1856,	48,178	489,656	1,074,200	156,725

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1856; that for the latter year has been compiled from Returns lately received from the Enumerators.

	Provinces and Counties.		Horses, with the purposes for which they are kept. Two years old and upwards. Agricultural.	Two years old and upwards. Traffic and Manufacture.	Two years old and upwards. Amusement or Recreation.	One year old and under two years.	Under one year.	Total Number of Horses.	Cattle. Milch Cows.	Other Cattle. Two years old and upwards.	Other Cattle. One year old and under two years.	Other Cattle. Under one year.	Total Number of Cattle.	Sheep. One year old and upwards. Ewes.	Sheep. One year old and upwards. Tups and Wethers.	Sheep. Under one year.	Total Number of Sheep.	Pigs. One year old and upwards.	Pigs. Under one year.	Total Number of Pigs.	
	ULSTER:																				
1	Antrim,	1855,	21,705	1,538	964	2,310	2,905	29,442	68,000	22,315	24,600	29,777	144,702	26,010	7,300	16,559	53,867	8,181	37,860	46,041	1
		1856,	22,164	1,483	1,009	2,317	2,555	29,528	66,591	22,953	26,154	26,270	141,676	27,315	6,854	22,910	57,079	6,719	35,616	42,335	
2	Armagh,	1855,	11,037	374	297	805	795	12,898	36,530	6,621	11,379	14,696	69,226	5,314	1,209	3,752	10,275	3,142	15,305	18,447	2
		1856,	11,237	356	307	610	969	13,479	37,326	7,954	12,635	12,776	71,193	5,089	916	4,266	10,271	3,061	13,580	16,641	
3	Cavan,	1855,	7,029	383	345	940	1,466	10,963	54,933	14,062	14,970	25,412	109,377	11,659	3,405	8,985	24,049	7,111	26,760	33,871	3
		1856,	8,145	550	309	1,163	1,455	11,631	55,401	13,656	17,081	22,930	109,168	10,057	3,361	9,384	23,002	5,590	20,434	26,024	
4	Donegal,	1855,	19,530	264	337	1,553	2,775	24,259	79,133	33,210	33,234	34,530	105,107	63,939	22,285	39,406	125,630	4,903	16,915	21,819	4
		1856,	20,027	321	375	1,350	2,418	24,510	78,123	39,559	35,563	29,302	182,552	70,530	27,307	49,976	147,821	3,723	11,373	15,096	
5	Down,	1855,	25,512	604	761	1,675	2,855	31,407	62,415	15,199	22,310	31,246	131,170	26,599	8,330	17,353	52,332	8,309	36,535	45,344	5
		1856,	26,180	674	796	1,609	2,793	32,123	62,601	17,487	27,403	27,439	135,030	24,971	6,078	20,072	51,121	6,830	32,985	39,815	
6	Fermanagh,	1855,	5,448	329	282	431	580	7,120	51,103	15,073	11,975	22,414	100,570	7,015	2,933	6,027	16,828	2,721	16,406	19,127	6
		1856,	5,629	231	248	448	592	7,148	51,732	14,591	12,889	21,099	100,304	7,85	2,907	6,762	17,525	1,909	12,113	14,022	
7	Londonderry,	1855,	16,420	384	448	1,324	1,752	20,331	46,081	16,729	13,914	20,461	102,185	15,235	4,294	10,358	29,888	5,196	17,632	22,828	7
		1856,	16,933	546	448	1,378	1,949	21,254	46,309	16,171	20,753	18,256	101,550	14,631	5,054	12,424	32,129	4,249	19,430	23,679	
8	Monaghan,	1855,	8,970	281	336	530	815	10,934	33,304	7,992	11,581	17,285	75,662	7,181	1,463	4,449	13,093	3,185	15,842	19,027	8
		1856,	9,379	204	279	591	847	11,300	39,272	7,913	13,142	15,349	75,676	6,379	925	6,147	13,951	2,686	11,647	14,333	
9	Tyrone,	1855,	20,316	432	306	013	1,502	23,539	84,717	23,591	27,176	33,830	169,314	23,250	5,833	17,178	45,761	4,927	27,250	32,177	9
		1856,	21,074	352	357	006	1,542	24,131	84,418	23,355	28,556	30,006	166,915	23,736	5,075	19,675	40,486	4,027	17,717	21,744	
	TOTAL OF ULSTER,	1855,	136,775	4,594	4,173	9,821	15,841	170,904	521,729	159,783	179,158	229,654	1,087,310	189,014	66,742	126,667	371,823	48,170	216,509	258,681	
		1856,	140,768	4,726	4,128	10,373	15,115	170,110	522,486	164,079	194,206	203,510	1,084,352	191,850	58,497	191,618	402,065	38,794	174,390	213,689	
	Increase or Decrease in ULSTER,		Increase, 3,993	Incr 132	Decr 45	Incr. 552	Decr 420	Increase, 4,306	Increase, 751	Increase, 4,296	Increase, 18,110	Decrease, 26,144	Decrease, 2,987	Increase, 2,676	Increase, 1,755	Increase, 25,551	Increase, 30,182	Decrease, 8,382	Decrease, 35,610	Decrease, 44,992	
	CONNAUGHT:																				
1	Galway,	1855,	16,862	722	1,127	3,836	4,291	26,850	42,431	53,579	23,493	19,153	138,661	248,987	145,766	137,110	529,863	15,822	31,958	47,780	1
		1856,	18,023	646	1,041	3,990	4,514	28,214	43,540	51,605	23,463	17,607	141,220	244,297	174,050	149,576	567,923	12,061	22,639	34,700	
2	Leitrim,	1855,	2,197	366	211	396	589	3,759	45,595	13,657	12,743	19,006	91,061	9,549	3,052	7,977	20,578	4,735	16,055	20,790	2
		1856,	2,264	321	214	497	552	3,833	45,190	14,234	13,106	17,290	89,950	10,184	2,419	6,141	20,744	3,613	11,091	14,704	
3	Mayo,	1855,	11,789	465	427	1,960	2,070	17,531	55,643	49,028	25,135	23,777	153,583	137,729	44,639	83,080	265,448	10,924	27,424	38,348	3
		1856,	13,041	509	423	2,317	3,010	19,300	58,258	49,584	27,717	22,297	157,856	132,636	51,445	85,945	270,074	9,965	23,407	33,372	
4	Roscommon,	1855,	5,728	374	546	1,441	1,577	9,616	32,521	20,409	15,837	16,666	84,433	62,282	41,988	43,252	147,522	3,025	18,697	26,720	4
		1856,	5,962	497	587	1,572	1,504	10,122	33,692	22,507	16,997	15,105	94,411	58,632	47,477	45,226	151,337	5,251	14,590	19,841	
5	Sligo,	1855,	5,482	340	804	847	1,107	8,030	40,761	19,403	14,898	16,000	93,062	25,572	10,560	18,403	54,535	5,830	15,963	21,793	5
		1856,	5,696	159	286	1,073	1,178	8,394	40,850	19,185	16,312	16,396	92,743	24,691	11,583	20,442	56,519	4,435	10,720	15,215	
	TOTAL OF CONNAUGHT,	1855,	42,018	2,237	2,615	8,480	10,494	65,844	216,951	165,076	92,106	96,667	570,800	484,119	244,925	289,822	1,017,946	45,334	110,097	155,431	
		1856,	44,986	2,132	2,553	9,439	10,758	69,868	221,040	159,105	102,620	88,695	570,180	470,492	286,774	309,330	1,066,597	35,385	82,447	117,832	
	Increase or Decrease in CONNAUGHT,		Increase, 2,968	Decr 105	Decr 62	Incr. 959	Incr. 324	Increase, 4,024	Increase, 4,689	Decrease, 1,911	Increase, 10,574	Decrease, 7,972	Increase, 5,380	Decrease, 13,620	Increase, 42,749	Increase, 19,508	Increase, 48,651	Decrease, 9,949	Decrease, 27,650	Decrease, 37,599	
	TOTAL OF IRELAND,	1855,	392,700	20,386	24,016	53,000	65,579	656,287	1,561,206	752,419	870,369	879,346	3,564,400	1,744,499	761,712	1,108,171	3,602,342	330,231	838,374	1,177,605	
		1856,	366,646	21,981	24,632	58,094	61,916	673,266	1,579,076	778,938	820,216	800,49	3,564,723	1,561,802	834,746	1,201,595	3,598,143	251,780	664,144	915,936	
	Increase or Decrease in IRELAND,		Increase 13,940	Incr 1,595	Incr 616	Incr. 4,494	Decr. 3,666	Increase, 16,979	Increase, 17,777	Increase, 25,519	Increase, 49,877	Decrease, 72,850	Increase, 20,323	Decrease, 82,657	Increase, 73,034	Increase, 95,424	Increase, 85,801	Decrease, 87,442	Decrease, 174,230	Decrease, 261,672	

TOTAL VALUE of the LIVE STOCK in IRELAND in each of the Years 1852, 1853, 1854, 1855, and 1856, calculated according to the Rates assumed by the Census Commissioners of 1841, viz.:—For Horses, £8 each; Cattle, £6 10s.; Sheep, 22s.; and Pigs, 25s. each:—

	Horses. £	Cattle. £	Sheep. £	Pigs. £	Total. £
1852,	4,200,704	20,117,935	2,075,337	1,340,823	28,534,799
1853,	4,316,230	21,991,509	3,456,922	1,431,181	31,197,892
1854,	4,367,432	22,736,357	4,094,441	1,678,186	32,876,416
1855,	4,450,296	23,168,600	3,962,576	1,472,006	33,053,478
1856,	4,586,128	23,300,700	4,056,057	1,144,916	33,088,701
	Increase.	Increase.	Increase.	Decrease.	Increase
Difference in Value from 1852 to 1856,	£385,424	£3,182,765	£1,101,620	£195,907	£4,553,902
Do. Do. between 1855 and 1856,	£135,032	£132,100	£94,381	£327,090	£35,223

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Acreage under Crops.

It appears from the foregoing abstracts that in 1856 there were 5,753,681 statute acres under tillage in Ireland, being an increase of 64,845 acres over 1855. The cereal crops collectively exhibit a decrease of 48,517 acres, divided among oats, barley, bere, rye, beans, and peas; wheat shows an increased area of 83,588 acres—445,775 acres having been sown in 1855, and 529,363 acres in 1856; of oats, there were 2,036,181 acres in 1856, being a decrease on 1855 of 82,677 acres. Barley, bere, rye, beans, and peas, covered 218,503 acres in 1856, which is a diminution of 49,428 acres compared with the previous year.

In "Green Crops," potatoes show an increase of 122,289 acres, or upwards of one-tenth more than in 1855—the numbers being in that year 982,301 acres, and in 1856, 1,104,590 acres. There were under turnips 354,362 acres in 1856, or 12,591 acres less than in 1855. "Other Green Crops"* show a small increase of 4,737 acres—the number being, in 1855, 95,136 acres, and in 1856, 99,873 acres. There were 106,826 acres returned as under flax in 1856, or an increase of 9,751 acres over last year. Although the area under this important crop does not equal its extent in 1852, 1853, or 1854, yet it is very gratifying to observe that in 1856 it has not continued to decrease. The increase in Ulster alone amounts to 8,999 acres; the province of Leinster also shows an increase in flax of 894 acres, and Connaught of 176 acres; but in Munster there is a decrease of 318 acres. In meadow and clover there is a decrease of 10,824 acres in 1856, there having been 1,314,807 acres in 1855, and 1,303,983 acres in 1856.

Number of Live Stock.

The Returns for 1856 exhibit an increase in the number of horses, cattle, and sheep; but pigs show a large decrease compared with 1855. The total number of horses in 1856 was 573,266, being 16,979 more than in 1855. Horses returned as kept for agricultural purposes increased by 13,940; for traffic and manufactures, by 1,595; and for amusement or recreation, by 616. Yearling horses are more numerous, by 4,494, than in 1855; but those under one year decreased by 3,663. The total number of cattle in Ireland in 1856 is 3,584,723, being an increase over the preceding year of 20,323. Of the entire number 1,579,073 were returned as milch cows, 778,938 as two years old and upwards, 620,216 as yearlings, and 606,496 as under one year,—these latter being 72,850 under the number in 1855,—the decrease being caused, in some measure, by the circumstance of the collection of the statistics having commenced on the 2nd of June this year; whilst in 1855 it did not commence until the 16th of July—six weeks later.

Sheep show a general increase of 85,801 in 1856, the numbers being—in 1856, 3,688,143; in 1855, 3,602,342. Those under one year increased 95,424, and tups and wethers, 73,034; but ewes decreased by 82,657. It is a very favourable indication of the progress of agriculture in Ireland, to find that the number of sheep has steadily augmented from 2,106,189, in 1841, to 3,688,143, in 1856, being an increase of 1,581,954, or more than one-half, in fifteen years. There were 1,177,605 pigs in 1855, and 915,933 in 1856, being a decrease in the latter year of 261,672, or more than a quarter of a million; those under one year diminished by 174,230, and those one year old and upwards by 87,442. This decrease affects every county in Ireland except Londonderry, and may be, in some degree, accounted for by the fact noticed in the preceding paragraph, that in 1855 the collection of the Statistics commenced on the 16th of July, whilst in 1856 it began on the 2nd of June,—*six weeks earlier*; the number of pigs littered during this period will therefore not appear in the Returns for 1856, as the small farmers so arrange the management of their stock, that the young pigs make their appearance about the middle of July, and are thus sufficiently old to consume the small potatoes which are abundant in October, when the general crop is being dug out. There cannot be any doubt but that many calves and other young animals were also born during the interval of the *six weeks* above referred to. In future years, however, the comparison of the stock will not be disturbed from this cause, as the Returns will be collected about the same time as in the present year, in accordance with the recommendation of the Select Committee of the House of Lords on Agricultural Statistics, in the session of 1855.

Having just received a copy of the Agricultural Statistics of Scotland for 1856, published on the 30th ultimo, I conceive it will be interesting to give the following table, showing the Total Acreage under Crops and the number of Live

* Mangel Wurzel, Beet-root, Carrots, Parsnips, Cabbage, Vetches, and Rape, are included under this head.

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Stock, as they appear in the general abstracts for both Ireland and Scotland in the years 1855 and 1856:—

TABLE I.—RETURN, showing the Acreage under Crops in Ireland and Scotland, in 1855 and 1856; also the Increase or Decrease in 1856.

Crops.	Ireland.				Scotland.			
	Acreage under Crops.		Increase or Decrease in 1856.		Acreage under Crops		Increase or Decrease in 1856.	
	1856.	1855.	Increase	Decrease	1856.	1855.	Increase.	Decrease
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
Wheat,	529,363	445,775	83,588	—	261,842¼	191,300¾	70,541½	—
Oats,	2,036,181	2,118,858	—	82,677	918,258½	933,662½	—	15,404
Barley, Bere, Rye, Beans, and Peas.	218,503	267,931	—	49,428	231,131¾	249,802¼	—	18,670½
Total, Cereal Crops,	2,784,047	2,832,564	Decrease, 48,517		1,411,232½	1,374,765½	Increase, 36,467	
Potatoes,	1,104,590	982,301	122,289	—	148,930¼	146,969¾	1,960½	—
Turnips,	354,362	366,953	—	12,591	459,741¼	449,404½	10,336¾	—
Other Green Crops,*	99,873	95,136	4,737	—	29,795	22,961¼	6,833¾	—
Total, Green Crops,	1,558,825	1,444,390	Increase, 114,435		638,466½	619,335½	Increase, 19,131	
Flax,	106,826	97,075	9,751	—	2,723¼	3,461¼	—	738
Meadow and Clover,	1,303,983	1,314,807	—	10,824	—	—	—	—
Grass and Hay under rotation,	—	—	—	—	1,475,584½	1,510,044¼	—	34,459¾
Total extent under Crops	5,753,681	5,688,836	Total increase, 64,845 acres.		3,528,006¾	3,507,606¼	Total increase, 20,400¼ acres.	
Total area of each country,	Ireland, according to the Ordnance Survey,		20,811,774 Statute acres.		Scotland, according to the Census of 1851,		20,047,462 Statute acres.	

* Under this head are included Mangel Wurzel, Beet-root, Carrots, Parsnips, Cabbage, Vetches, and Rape.

TABLE II.—RETURN, showing the Number and Description of Live Stock in Ireland and Scotland, in 1855 and 1856; also the Increase or Decrease in 1856.

Description of Stock.	Ireland.				Scotland.			
	Number of Stock.		Increase or Decrease, in 1856.		Number of Stock.		Increase or Decrease, in 1856.	
	1856.	1855.	Increase.	Decrease.	1856.	1855.	Increase.	Decrease.
Horses,	573,266	556,287	16,979	—	179,904	177,229	2,675	—
Cattle,	3,584,723	3,564,400	20,323	—	967,311	974,816	—	7,505
Sheep,	3,688,143	3,602,342	85,801	—	5,822,478	5,694,900	127,578	—
Pigs,	915,933	1,177,605	—	261,672	126,944	134,350	—	7,406

With reference to the Agricultural Statistics for Scotland, as given above, Mr. Hall Maxwell states—"The acreage and stock in the hands of tenants occupying land rented at less than £10, in twenty-six counties, and at less than £20 in seven, *as ascertained in* 1854, should be added to what the tables exhibit, increasing the extent of land in cultivation by 238,170 acres, and the amount of stock by 334,308 head." The number of occupants whose acreage and stock were omitted from the Scotch Returns of 1855 and 1856 is stated to have been 42,229 in 1854; having then amongst them 29,008 horses, 129,469 cattle, 149,432 sheep, and 26,399 swine. The entire number of occupants of those farms in Scotland which contained the crops and stock given in the above tables was only 42,919. The number of occupants and holders of stock from whom the Statistics are collected in Ireland, is upwards of 600,000, and these Returns include the crops and stock of *every* occupier and stockholder in this country. It would therefore appear that the entire number of land and stockholders in Ireland may be set down as being 600,000, and in Scotland, 85,148.

It will be seen from the preceding Tables that in both Ireland and Scotland

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there has been a *decrease* in the extent under oats, and under the collective crops, "barley, bere, rye, beans, and peas;" and a considerable *increase* in the breadth under wheat. Potatoes have also *increased* in both countries, largely in Ireland, —to a small extent in Scotland. Turnips have diminished in Ireland, whilst they have increased in Scotland; the acreage under "other green crops" is larger in both countries. In Stock, horses and sheep have increased, and pigs decreased, both here and in Scotland; whilst cattle have increased here and decreased in Scotland.

Measures to effect the destruction of Weeds.

Your Excellency is aware that in connexion with the agricultural statistics, I have, for the last four years, had returns made to me by the Constabulary, showing the extent to which weeds are permitted to grow, and, in most cases, to *shed their seeds* on the sides of highways, railways, and canals, as well as on the various farms of the country. On this subject I have the honour to give, in the Appendix, copies of two letters addressed by me to their Lordships, Her Majesty's Judges of Assize, also of circulars to the County Surveyors, and to the directors of every railway and canal in Ireland; and I beg to take this opportunity of acquainting your Excellency how deeply sensible I am of the kind and considerate manner in which my request to the Judges to bring the subject before the various Grand Juries, was received and acted upon by their Lordships, not only on the last Spring circuit, but more particularly during that lately concluded; and I am informed by communications from almost every county, that the several Grand Juries have given directions to the County Surveyors to take all necessary steps to prevent the great injury to the farming classes which has hitherto arisen from the growth of weeds along the sides of public roads. I would here take the liberty of remarking that your Excellency's observations, at the meeting of the Royal Dublin Society last April, and also at the late cattle show of the Royal Agricultural Society, at Athlone, as to the lamentable prevalence of weeds in Ireland, have had the happiest effect. In answer to the circular, which I took the liberty of addressing to the directors of railways and canals, I have to acknowledge the receipt, in several instances, of very courteous replies; copies of these I have felt it to be my duty to forward for insertion in the public papers; feeling that the assistance of the Press, which has hitherto been most liberally afforded to me on all occasions, is of the greatest importance, by making generally known the great injury and loss which arise from the unchecked growth of weeds on the farms and along the highways of the country. Every observer, and even the general traveller, must be struck with the great neglect on this important matter, which, with few exceptions, exists in almost every part of Ireland.

I beg to mention that having brought this subject before the Commissioners of National Education,* and suggested to them the many advantages that must arise by instructing their teachers to direct the attention of the children in the numerous schools under their control to the great importance of destroying weeds when found growing on their parents' farms; I have received a reply* promising every assistance in the matter; and have furnished to Mr. Macdonnell, the Resident Commissioner, 1,000 copies of my circular to County Surveyors, to be distributed by the teachers then in training on their return home; and I have learned that 6,000 of these circulars have since been procured by the Commissioners, for circulation amongst their schools. The Committee of the Church Education Society have also promised their valuable assistance* with the pupils in their schools, and also the Poor Law Commissioners,* through the medium of the masters and teachers in workhouses, by instructing the children in attendance as to the advantages which must arise to the community by the practice of destroying weeds. The Governors of Erasmus Smith's Schools* have also promised their friendly aid.

The Masters in Chancery,† upon all of whom I waited personally, have unanimously taken the subject into their consideration, and, I am informed, purpose recommending that an order should be issued requiring receivers over the estates under the Court to use their influence with the tenantry to keep their farms free from weeds.

The Commissioners of Public Works* have also directed the removal of weeds from all works in progress under their control, such as those of arterial drainage, roads, &c.

Copies of my correspondence with Her Majesty's Judges, and with the several

* See Appendix, pages 22, 23. † See Appendix, page 21.

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public bodies and other parties, upon the subject of the destruction of weeds, are given in the Appendix; and I trust they will not be considered undeserving of attention.

The following extract from the works of that eminent man and real patriot —Sir John Sinclair, first President of "The Board of Agriculture," quoted in the "Rural Cyclopædia," will be read with interest, as exhibiting the immense loss* arising from the neglect of removing weeds from growing crops, and is highly valuable as being the record of actual experiment:—

Sir John Sinclair on the Destruction of Weeds.

"All plants which grow naturally among a crop that has been sown, may be regarded as *enemies* to that crop. The destruction of such plants, therefore, must be considered as one of the most important branches of the agricultural art; for if that is neglected, or even but slovenly performed, the crops may be reduced to the amount of one-fourth or one-third of a fair average crop, even upon the very best soils. Besides, it merits consideration, that if weeds are suffered to exist, the full advantages of manuring land, and many other improvements, can only be partially obtained. Nor is this all, the mixture of weeds in the soil prevents the crops from receiving the beneficial influence of the atmosphere,—sucks up that moisture so essential for the growth of the crop sown,—tends more than any other circumstance to injure the crop when lodged by violent winds or heavy rains,—augments the risks at harvest (for a crop that is clean, may be ready for the stack-yard in much less time than is required to harvest it, when encumbered with weeds),—and the seeds of these intruders deteriorate the quality of the grain. Notwithstanding all the injuries thence sustained, how many are there, who hardly ever attempt to remove weeds in an effectual manner? This negligence is the more to be blamed, because, were farmers at the trouble of collecting all sorts of weeds, before they had formed their seeds, and of mixing them with rich earth, with lime, or fermenting them with dung, they would soon be reduced into a soft pulpy mass, and in this way a pernicious nuisance might be converted into a valuable manure.—Various *experiments* have been tried, to ascertain the positive advantage derived from carefully weeding one part of a field, and leaving another part undone; among these, the following, made with peculiar accuracy, may be safely relied on:—

"1. *Seven acres of light gravelly land were fallowed, and sown broad-cast; one acre was measured off, and not a weed was pulled out of it; the other six were carefully weeded. The unweeded acre produced* 18 *bushels; the six weeded acres* 135 *bushels, or* 22½ *per acre, which is* 4½ *bushels, or* ¼ *more produce in favour of weeding.*—2. *A six-acre field was sown with barley, in fine tilth, and well manured. The weeding, owing to a great abundance of charlock, cost* 12*s. per acre. The produce of an unweeded acre was only* 13 *bushels; of the weeded,* 28. *Difference in favour of weeding,* 15 *bushels per acre, besides the land being so much cleaner for succeeding crops.*—3. *Six acres sown with oats; one acre ploughed but once, and unmanured, produced only* 17 *bushels. Another six acres ploughed three times, manured, and weeded, produced* 37 *bushels. This experiment proves, that oats require good management, and will pay for it as well as other crops. Ten bushels of the increased produce may be fairly attributed to the weeding, and the other ten to the manure.*

"The importance of weeding, both to the individual and to the public, is such, that it ought to be enforced by law. At any rate, a regulation of police, for fining those who harbour weeds, the seeds of which may be blown into their neighbours' ground, can have no injustice in principle. In England, the petty constable might be required, by precept from the high constable, to give in presentments to the Quarter-Sessions, containing a list of all persons who suffered weeds to run to seeds in their hedges or lands, such presentments to be particularly specified to the court. Those referring to the coltsfoot, to be given in at the Lady-day sessions; and those referring to thistles, rag-weed, &c., to be given in at the Midsummer sessions. An order of court might then be made, for the immediate removal of such nuisances; and if not complied with, the offender should be fined a sum not exceeding five pounds, one-half to the informer, and the other half to go for the relief of the poor. If, in consequence of such a system being enforced, from four to five bushels of wheat, fifteen bushels of barley, and ten bushels of oats additional, were raised in all the fields in the kingdom, whose crops are injured by weeds, the benefit would be well worth the labour and expense, and the farmers would soon find that however anxious they may be to have their lands tithe-free, yet to have them weed-free is of still greater importance. On the whole, keeping his land in a clean state ought to be a principal object with every farmer; and if this be not carefully attended to, he may rest assured of paying dearly for his neglect. But the losses which he suffers, do not remedy the injury which the public sustains from his slovenly conduct.

"In several countries, the legislature has interposed its authority for the destruction of weeds. By a regulation in France, *a farmer may sue his neighbour, who neglects to destroy the thistles upon his land at the proper seasons*, or may employ people to do it at the other's expense. In Denmark, there is a law to oblige the farmers to root up the corn marigold, *Chrysanthemum segetum*. But the oldest regulation for that purpose, was probably in Scotland; a statute of Alexander II., about the year 1220, having been directed against that weed, which was considered to be peculiarly pernicious to corn fields. The statute is very short, and ably expressed. *It denounces that man to be a traitor, 'who poisons the*

* See an able Article on this subject in the "Freeman's Journal" of the 27th of August, 1856.

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Sir John Sinclair on the Destruction of Weeds.

king's lands with weeds, and introduces into them a host of enemies.'—Bondsmen who had this plant in their corn, *were fined a sheep for each stalk.* Under the authority of that law, Sir William Grierson, a Scottish baron, was accustomed to hold *Goul* courts, for the express purpose of fining the farmers in whose growing crops three heads or upwards of that weed were found. Such a plan, if generally adopted, would soon extirpate weeds; and as by a *clause introduced into many leases,* (and which ought to be universal,) the landlord is empowered to cut down these weeds, at the expense of the tenant, if the latter neglect to do it himself; it is much to be regretted that so useful a regulation should not be generally enforced. The policy of *some legislative provision* for this purpose has been frequently suggested. A clause enforcing the extirpation of weeds, in hedges, along the sides of roads, passed the House of Commons, but was thrown out by the Lords. It is to be hoped that so useful a measure, even on a more extensive scale, will soon be passed into a law. By some it is recommended that the destruction of weeds on the sides of roads should be done at the parish expense; others, by the road-surveyors, and the expense to be stated in their accounts. * * * *

"Though it is impracticable to extirpate annual weeds altogether, either by summer fallow or turnip culture, yet the number of weeds may be so much lessened, by these means as to prevent them from materially injuring corn crops. Two measures are necessary for that purpose,—first, to bring the seeds within the limits of vegetation;—and secondly, to destroy every weed that vegetates, thus regularly lessening the original stock. As the seeds of annual weeds are naturally furnished with the means of preservation while stored in the ground, it is absolutely necessary to bring them into life, before their destruction can be effected. This is accomplished by the operations of ploughing, harrowing, and rolling, by which the ground is pulverized and reduced, whilst the seeds are brought to the surface, or so near it as to allow their speedy vegetation. All the seeds within two or three inches of the surface, may be expected to vegetate according to circumstances, such as, richness of soil, fineness of mould, and the degree of moisture which may prevail when the above processes are executed. When the first crops of weeds appear above the surface, a second ploughing should be given, by which that crop will instantly be destroyed, and a foundation laid for producing another crop. Harrowing and rolling should again be resorted to; and in this way, several crops may be annihilated, in warm and moist seasons, before the turnips are drilled, more especially if attention has been paid to harrow and roll the land after every ploughing, so that sufficient moisture may be preserved to insure vegetation. When under turnips, both the hand and horse hoe should be constantly employed whenever weeds appear; and upon no account should a single one be allowed to run to seed. By paying due attention to these measures, many farms which formerly were a nest of seed-weeds, are now brought into such order that the weeds are kept under subjection and easily managed. In this way the destruction of many annual weeds may be accomplished, before the turnip-seed is sown, and the seeds of almost every annual weed locked up in the ground, may be brought to the surface, and within the reach of vegetation. Besides, the several horse and hand hoeings given to the turnip crop, serve to destroy every annual weed as fast as it appears; and if the seed-furrow given the corn crop which succeeds the turnips, is not taken deeper than the horse-hoeing furrow, (and a greater depth is unnecessary,) few weeds will appear in the corn crop which afterwards follows. As grass-seeds are always sown in the improved districts, with the corn-crop that succeeds turnips, no annual weeds can appear in that season; but it very often happens in the succeeding year, from ploughing the clover-stubble a little deeper than the seed-furrow given to the crop which succeeded turnips, that a fresh growth of annual weeds make their appearance. To get the better of these enemies some experienced farmers have hand-weeded the crops which followed clover, at an expense not less than from ten to twenty shillings per acre, and evidently much to their advantage; whilst others have resorted to the drill husbandry to get quit of annual weeds. The great object of both was, to procure clean crops, each being perfectly satisfied, that if their crops were full of weeds, the productive powers of the soil would not only be deteriorated, but that the amount or value of those crops would be also considerably lessened.

"Owing to the nature of the soil and climate, many perennial weeds are much more abundant in Scotland, and also in Ireland, Wales, and the north and north-west of England, than in other countries, where the soil is drier, and the climate more temperate. * *

"*With regard to docks and thistles, the method of getting rid of them is perfectly obvious; all that is required being to fallow the ground well in the first instance, and to exterminate the plants afterwards whenever they appear. This may be accomplished by pulling them up by the root, in every corn-field, when the weather is moist, and cutting them over in all the grass lands before they have perfected their seeds; though cutting should only be resorted to when the weather is so dry as to prevent pulling these weeds out of the ground. The same attention ought to be paid to the destruction of nettles, ragweeds, mugwort, and the mountain daisy. Every one of these weeds ought to be pulled up by the root, if that measure can be accomplished; but where that is impracticable, they ought to be regularly cut down by the scythe, in which way their increase will at least be prevented. This operation should always be performed before their seeds arrive at maturity, otherwise the ground may thence be stocked with fresh seed, to an extent not much less than if the cutting process had been neglected.*"

The injurious effects of weeds is scarcely to be wondered at, when their extraordinary and almost *incredible fecundity* is taken into consideration. The following table (with the exception of the Irish names, for which I am indebted

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to Dr. O'Donovan and Mr. Eugene Curry, M.R.I.A.), is taken from Professor Buckman, as quoted in the "Gardener's Chronicle and Agricultural Gazette," of the 12th of last July:—

"*Seeding of Weeds.*—One of the most fertile sources of the continuation of weeds is that of constantly *allowing them to seed on the land.* Now the enormous increase which may result from seeding may be gathered from the following table of observations made upon a few of our common species:— Fecundity of Weeds.

Botanical Name.	Irish Names.	Common Name.	Number of Flowers.		Number of Seeds each Flower may bear.		Number of Seeds on a single Plant.
Senecio vulgaris,	Grunnasg,	Groundsel,	130	×	50	=	6,500
Stellaria media,	Fliodh,	Chickweed,	50	×	10	=	500
Agrostemma githago,	Cogal-arbhuir,	Corn cockle,	7	×	370	=	2,590
Lychnis dioica,	Rós-fiadhain,	Campion,	25	×	137	=	3,425
Papaver rhœas,	Cailcin dearg,	Red poppy,	100	×	500	=	50,000
Sinapis arvensis,	Carran buidhe,	Charlock,	400	×	10	=	4,000
" nigra,	Sgeallar dubh,	Black mustard,	200	×	6	=	1,200
Galium tricorne,	Coinnleach leaptha,	Corn bed-straw,	100	×	2	=	200
" aparine,	Luibh-an-ladhair,	Clivers [Cleavers],	550	×	2	=	1,100
Sonchus arvensis,	Fothannan,	Corn sow-thistle,	100	×	190	=	19,000
Carduus nutans,	Fothannan cumhra,	Musk thistle,	25	×	150	=	3,750
Æthusa cynapium,	Fionnas,	Fool's parsley,	300	×	2	=	600
Ervum tetraspermum,	Roilléith,	Tare,	60	×	3	=	180
Daucus carota,	Carrán Fiadhain,	Wild carrot,	600	×	2	=	1,200
Pastinaca sativa,	Meacanfiadhain,	Wild parsnip,	600	×	2	=	1,200

"Now, it is not likely that each individual plant would always perfect the quantities of seeds above tabulated; but the list gives a pretty accurate notion of the numbers of seeds which might be perfected under circumstances favourable to their development, and from it will at once be gathered the important practical fact that, allowing for the casualties to which seeds are constantly liable, yet enough would be left, where seeding is allowed but for a single year, to give trouble for many years after.

"*It cannot be too earnestly urged* THAT WEEDS BE DESTROYED BEFORE THEIR SEEDS ARE RIPE, OR INDEED NEARLY RIPE, *as the ripening process is often completed by the juices in the stems, especially of pulled weeds: hence groundsel and thistles, when pulled and laid by, as we saw last year, yet ripened much seed; and their involucres, opening in the sun, were wafted on the breeze to an indefinite distance; and it should be recollected that one—the primary head—may ripen long before the rest, so that a tolerable weed-growth may follow from a delay which has allowed only this one head to perfect its seed. Each plant of groundsel might in this way be increased* 50 *fold, each plant of corn sow-thistle,* 190 *fold, and a single head of musk-thistle may produce an increase of* 150 *fold.*"

And in the number of the same useful periodical for November 18th, 1854, another list of weeds is given, from which the following are selected:—

Botanical Name.	Irish Name.	Common Name.	Number of Seed vessels or Flowers to each Plant.		Number of Seeds to each Vessel or Flower		Number of Seeds to each Plant.	When gathered in 1854.
Capsella bursa pastoris,	Sraidin,	Shepherd's purse,	150	×	30	=	4,500	Sept. 9
Sisymbrium officinale,	Lus-an-oir,	Common hedge mustard,	450	×	12	=	5,400	Oct. 13
Heracleum sphondylium,	Goran (or Goranach)	Cow parsnip,	2,500	×	2	=	5,000	Aug. 17
Convolvulus arvensis,		Corn bind weed,	200	×	3	=	600	Sept. 26
Galeopsis ladanum,	Neanntog,	Hemp nettle,	500	×	4	=	2,000	"
Bartsia odontites,		Red bartsia,	400	×	12	=	4,800	Oct. 1
Leontodon taraxacum,	Castsearbhan,	Dandelion,	12	×	170	=	2,040	"
Centaurea jacobea,	Gob-an-Ghiusain,	Hardhead scabious,	50	×	80	=	4,000	Sept. 10
" nigra,		Blackhead,	50	×	60	=	3,000	"
Anthemis cotula,	Brean-lus,	Stinking chamomile,	271	×	150	=	40,650	Sept. 23
Matricaria chamomilla,	Moidhur,	Mayweed,	150	×	300	=	45,000	Oct. 14
Chrysanthemum leucanthemum,	Esspug-ban,	Ox-eye daisy,	45	×	300	=	13,500	Sept. 18
Arctium lappa,	Copog tuathail,	Burdock,	613	×	40	=	24,520	Oct. 1
Sonchus oleraceus,	Bleacht Fheothadan,	Sow thistle,	100	×	250	=	25,000	Sept. 6
Carduus acaulis,		Stemless thistle,	6	×	100	=	600	Sept. 8
Papaver dubium,			100	×	600	=	60,000	Oct. 14
Rumex obtusifolius,	Copog sraide,	Common dock,	13,000				13,000	Sept. 15
Euphorbia exigua,		Dwarf spurge,	500	×	3	=	1,500	Sept. 19
" peplus,	Geirneimh,	Petty spurge,	400	×	3	=	1,200	Sept. 11
" helioscopia,		Sun spurge,	324	×	3	=	972	Oct. 14
Lapsana communis,	Duilleog bhaighte,	Nipple wort,	560	×	15	=	8,400	Sept. 23

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Annexed are the names of some of the most noxious weeds, with compound flowers, which I have been informed by Doctor Mackay, author of the "Flora Hibernica," grow wild in Ireland, and all of which produce seeds in the greatest quantity :—

COMMON NAMES.	BOTANICAL NAMES.
1. Spear plume thistle.	Cnicus lanceolatus.
2. Marsh plume thistle.	Cnicus palustris.
3. Creeping plume thistle.	Cnicus arvensis.
4. Welted thistle.	Carduus acanthoides.
5. Slender-flowered thistle.	Carduus tenuiflorus.
6. Dandelion.	Leontodon taraxacum.
7. Ox-eye daisy.	Chrysanthemum leucanthemum.
8. Corn marygold.	Chrysanthemum segetum.
9. Rough hawkbit.	Apargia hirta.
10. Autumnal hawkbit.	Apargia autumnalis.

Of so much importance has the eradication of weeds been considered in the Colony of Victoria, that an Act has been recently passed to insure their destruction; the owner or occupier of the land on which they grow, may be ordered by a Justice of the Peace to destroy them, and is liable to a fine if he does not comply —a course which, if followed in this country, would be gratefully received by the farming classes, and be productive of great national benefit, as, according to the experiments of Sir John Sinclair, already referred to, the land, WHEN KEPT FREE FROM WEEDS, WILL YIELD A MUCH GREATER AMOUNT OF PRODUCE.

It will be gratifying to your Excellency to learn that, in addition to the letters given in the Appendix, promising assistance in the improvement of Irish agriculture, by the eradication of weeds, I have received from very many influential parties to whom I am personally unknown, communications expressive of their entire approval of what has been termed by some of them, the "National Crusade against Weeds." I also learn from copies of almost every Journal in Ireland, kindly sent to me by the Editors, that the Press has, without exception, given its powerful aid to the same object—one which most happily has received your Excellency's marked approbation. And I confidently trust, from the opinions so unequivocally expressed in every quarter, that much and permanent good will be effected by bringing the present great neglect on this subject prominently under public observation.

As I find that misapprehensions exist in some quarters relative to the steps taken to insure accuracy in filling the Returns by the Constabulary, I have given, in the Appendix, Copies of the Instructions issued by me to the several Enumerators, and also of the Forms upon which the extent of land under tillage and the number of live stock were collected.

I beg to state that the classification of the Holdings, and the preparation of the usual abstracts by baronies and poor law unions, together with the tables relative to mills for scutching flax, and those as to the prevalence of weeds on the sides of highways, and also upon farms, are in progress, and shall be submitted to your Excellency as soon as they can be prepared.

In conclusion, I have great pleasure in acquainting your Excellency, that on this, as upon previous occasions, I have received, in reference to the collection of these Statistics, valuable assistance from the Magistracy, the Clergy of all denominations, and other influential parties—and also from the public Press;—and as the object of procuring the Returns is now so generally known, and former prejudices no longer exist, I have not thought it necessary in the present year to circulate the usual explanatory letters on the subject.*

I have the honour to be,

Your Excellency's very faithful Servant,

WILLIAM DONNELLY,

Registrar-General.

AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS OFFICE,
5, HENRIETTA-STREET, DUBLIN,
15*th September*, 1856.

* See note, page 23.

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APPENDIX.

COPIES OF INSTRUCTIONS TO ENUMERATORS

AND OF THE

FORMS USED IN TAKING THE AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS OF 1856.

AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS, IRELAND,

1856.

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS.

5, HENRIETTA-STREET, DUBLIN,
14*th May*, 1856.

I.—ENUMERATION DISTRICTS.

1. The Returns of Townlands used in collecting the Agricultural Statistics for 1855, will assist Superintendents to divide their Constabulary Districts into convenient Sub-Districts for carrying out the objects of the present Agricultural Inquiry, and in doing so they are also recommended to avail themselves of the Ordnance Maps, in order that the Sub-Districts may be of the most convenient size.

2. Blank Forms of Returns (E) will be supplied, in which Superintendents will enter the names of the Townlands allotted to each Enumerator. These Returns are to be prepared *in duplicate*, one copy to be sent to this Office, the other to be given to the Enumerator.

II.—TILLAGE RETURNS.

1. For the greater convenience of compiling the information, it is proposed to collect the extent of Tillage in *each* Townland on *one* set of Returns, and the number of Live Stock on another. Form A is prepared for the former, and Form B for the latter.

2. Form A will contain the names of all persons occupying land within each Townland, also the size of their farms,—the quantity of land under each description of crop,—and the quantity not in tillage,—each to be given in STATUTE (or *English*) ACRES. When bog or waste land is held with the farm, it should be stated in the details, and also in the total of the farm; but where tracts of land of any description are not occupied by a tenant farmer, or cultivated by the proprietor, their extent ought to be ascertained as nearly as possible, and added at foot of the Return, in *the proper* columns, *in the name of the Proprietor:*—The total of all these quantities should be equal to the area of the Townland, according to the Ordnance Survey.

3. In the case of a farmer holding land in two or more Townlands, the name of the *Townland in which he resides should be stated*, and also whether all the lands held by him are to be considered as one, or as separate farms. If, however, *the farms adjoin each other*, though in different Townlands, they may be considered as forming only one farm, *but if detached*, each separate lot is to be considered as a distinct holding.

4. *Land intended for Turnip or other Green Crops, but which may not be sown at the time of the Inquiry, should be entered in the proper column, as if the Crop were already in the ground—the Enumerator taking care to ascertain the exact extent to be cropped.*

5. Tables for converting Irish into Statute (or English) acres, and Statute (or English), into Irish acres, and also Statute (or English) into Cunningham acres, accompany these instructions.

6. *A precise* degree of accuracy in all those quantities is not expected, but there are few cases in which a very near approach to the truth may not be attained, and the area of the whole Townland being stated at the head of Form A., a check upon the quantities given by the Landholders, and a means of testing and correcting the general accuracy of the answers is thus afforded. Upon adding up the areas of the several farms within each Townland, if the total be found to differ more than 5 acres in a 100 from the area of the whole Townland, *further inquiry* should be made to ascertain the cause of the difference, and the previous statements corrected accordingly.

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III.—RETURNS OF LIVE STOCK.

1. Form B—The first and second columns of this Return will contain, like the first and second columns of Form A, the names of the Landholders and the extent of each holding. The other columns should show the number of each description of Live Stock on every farm, as expressed in the headings of the printed forms.

2. Grazing Stock, or Stock feeding on land not in the possession of the owner of the Stock, *is to be considered as the stock of that land for the time being*, and should be returned as in the possession of the holder of the farm.

3. In the case of persons who have Stock in their possession, *and are not Landholders*, their names and the quantity of Stock in the possession of each are to be entered on the same Return with the Landholders of the Townland, merely drawing a line across the "*Area*" column.

4. In regard to Towns, the Stockholders and Stock of *each Street* should be entered on *one or more* Forms as if it were a Townland.

5. Where farms extend into more than one Townland, the quantity of Stock on the portion of the farm within each Townland, at the time of the inquiry, should be entered *separately* in the Returns, *taking care that none are twice enumerated.*

6. In the B form are two columns for the purpose of distinguishing Horses kept for amusement or recreation, and for general traffic and manufactures, from those used for agricultural purposes. In many cases it will be found that the same horses are kept for recreation as well as for labour, and in every instance where the Enumerator is informed that any portion of the labour of the animal is given to productive employment the horse is to be set down in either of the columns, "Agriculture," or "Traffic and Manufactures," as the case may be.

IV.—RETURNS OF PRODUCE.

The extent of land cultivated is only one part of the information necessary to form a basis for calculating the quantity of food produced in Ireland, *the yield* being equally important but much more difficult to arrive at. Form C, which will be forwarded after the Harvest, with detailed instructions, has been framed for the purpose of ascertaining the *average rate of produce* per acre, and made as simple as the subject admits.

V.—RETURNS AS TO PREVALENCE OF WEEDS.

Form K has been prepared, in order to ascertain the degree of care observed by Farmers in keeping their lands free from Weeds,—and if any, and what precautions are taken by Road Contractors or others to *prevent the weeds on the sides* of the Public Roads, Railways, and Canals, from shedding their seed, thus becoming, as is too frequently seen, a nuisance, and doing great injury to adjoining farms. One of these forms is to be filled up by each Enumerator for the townlands allotted to him, and he is requested to state the result of his own observations on this subject.

VI.—ABSTRACTS OF THE A AND B RETURNS OF ENUMERATION DISTRICTS.

As soon as each Enumerator has completed the A and B Returns of the Townlands allotted to him, he will fill up with great care the Abstracts marked F^1 and F^2, which are designed to show at one view the results of the Inquiries he has made, and these Abstracts are to be placed in front of the files of the Returns to which they belong.

VII.—SCUTCHING MILLS.

In consequence of the importance of Flax cultivation, Form D has been prepared for the purpose of ascertaining the number and description of Mills employed in Ireland for dressing Flax by Machinery. One of these Forms is to be filled up for *each Constabulary Sub-district* in Ireland; and in those Sub-districts where there is not a Mill of the kind a statement to that effect signed by the Constable is to be written on one of these Forms and forwarded with the other Returns.

VIII.—PRINTED FORMS.

In deciding upon the supply of A and B Forms to be issued to each Constabulary District, a criterion is afforded by the number of Tillage and Live Stock Returns received from each District last year.

IX.—FORWARDING RETURNS TO DUBLIN.

1. When the Returns for any district have been completed they are to be carefully made up and forwarded by POST to this Office. The proper address is given on the printed labels, one of which should be pasted on each parcel.

2. An Invoice of the contents of each parcel should be posted at the same time, *but in a separate Envelope.*

3. Letters or Papers forwarded to this Office are *not to be prepaid.*

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X.—FINANCE.

1. Each Sub-Inspector or Head Constable who shall discharge the duties of a Superintendent on the Agricultural Inquiry, will be entitled to claim the sum of 2*s.* 6*d.*, to cover his expenses for Stationery, in addition to his claim for any charges for postage or carriage of parcels unavoidably incurred, the particulars of which should be clearly stated in a Form of Account, No. 3. And each member of the Constabulary Force employed as an Enumerator will be allowed the sum of 2*s.* to cover the cost of Stationery and other incidental expenses arising out of this duty, exclusive of car-hire, boat-hire, and an allowance of 1*s.* per night when necessarily absent for the night from his barrack. The claims for allowances for Stationery, &c., are to be made on Form of Voucher No 1, and for nightly allowance on Form of Voucher, No. 4.

2. In conformity with the Circular of the Inspector General, of the 1st September, 1853, and the Chief Secretary's Minute of the 3rd October following,—members of the Constabulary, employed on the Agricultural Inquiry, who may devote more than ten hours in any one day to this duty, will be entitled to an allowance of 6*d.* for every day whilst so employed, to be charged to this service, the claims for which are to be made out on Form of Voucher No. 5. As the duties of the Agricultural Inquiry extend over several days, it is conceived that the time employed should not exceed eight or nine hours a-day, except in a case of emergency, of which, it is hoped, that each Superintendent will fully satisfy himself, before he admits the claim. In cases in which the Townlands to be visited are remote from the station, and where it may be judicious to make this allowance for several consecutive days, *instead of the nightly allowance for absence from quarters*, a report of the facts should be made by the Superintendent to the Registrar-General, and his approval obtained *previous* to incurring the expense.

3. Application for leave to employ Interpreters should state the number of days for which the services of each will be required. Their rate of pay is not to exceed 1*s.* per diem, and it should be claimed on Form of Voucher No. 2.

4. Boat-hire, car-hire, or any other extraordinary charges, should be claimed on Form of Account, No. 3, in which every detail necessary to a perfect understanding of the nature of the demand and the value of the service is to be fully stated. *The written authority of the Registrar-General must be previously obtained for incurring the expenses* referred to on Forms of Vouchers 2, 3, 4, and 5, except in a case of emergency,—which *authority* is to be attached to the Voucher when forwarded to this office.

5. No Payment is to be made to any Person on behalf of another without the permission of the Registrar-General.

6. All accounts are to be furnished not later than ten days after the enumeration has been completed, in order to their prompt discharge.

XI.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

1. It is most important that these inquiries should be *entered upon in each District, as nearly as possible at the same time.* The Registrar-General, therefore, recommends *Monday the 2nd of June* as the day on which the Enumeration is to be commenced, and that it be prosecuted diligently until completed, *as the Government is desirous of being informed of the results at an early period*, and in order that the errors arising from the transfer of Stock from one proprietor to another during the period of the inquiries may be as few as possible, expedition is most desirable. A Return according to Form G should be forwarded to this Office *without delay*, to show when the inquiries in each Enumeration District will probably be concluded, which it is confidently expected will *be at farthest by the 10th of July.*

2. *A few individuals from different localities, and amongst them some persons of much intelligence, have occasionally impugned the accuracy not only of the acreage under crops (more particularly of Green Crops), but also of the Returns of Agricultural Produce. It is therefore strongly urged upon the Enumerators that every possible care should be taken in making the inquiries and in noting accurately, not only the information they receive, but also, in the proper columns, the names of the persons from whom they receive it, so that no difficulty may arise, in establishing the fact that the Constabulary discharged the duty confided to them in their usual creditable and trustworthy manner—should investigations hereafter take place into the published results of their inquiries and returns.*

Recent experience has shown that the Enumerators have, in some cases, had much difficulty in arriving at even an approximation to the extent of "Woods or Plantations," their attention is now, therefore, more particularly directed to this subject, as being one which requires increased care.

Errors have sometimes arisen in preparing fair copies of the Returns A and B, by inserting the facts previously collected, *in wrong columns*,—due care will prevent this in future.

3. In carrying the foregoing Instructions into effect, the Enumerators will observe the utmost civility; the information sought is to be asked for with gentleness, and *never* with harsh language or threats. It is to be borne in mind, that almost all persons view inquiries of this character with jealousy in proportion to their want of knowledge of the results sought to be obtained; it is however considered that the publications which have resulted from similar previous inquiries have already

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done much to remove prejudices from the minds of all classes, so that it is confidently expected the Returns of this year will be collected with facility, and that the required information will on public grounds be faithfully given to the Enumerators by occupiers of land, and also by proprietors of Stock.

4. *It is most important that in all cases, where possible, the Enumerator should ascertain the particulars from the owner of the Farm, or from his Steward.*

WILLIAM DONNELLY, *Registrar-General.*

I approve of the foregoing Instructions being addressed to the Constabulary, who will use their best exertions to obtain early and accurate information for the Government.

Sub-Inspectors will take care that the Districts of Enumerators are of *such convenient size* that the Returns required may be completed and forwarded to the Registrar-General by the 10*th of July, at farthest.*

County Inspectors will afford every facility in their power to carry out the objects herein referred to.

D. M'GREGOR, *Inspector-General.*

Approved, THOMAS A. LARCOM, *Dublin Castle.*

PATTERN RETURNS.

Form A.

RETURN OF TILLAGE, 1856.

Townland—BALLYMORAN.

County—Wicklow. Barony—Rathdown. *Nearest Post Town to this Townland*— GOLDENBALL. Parish—Goldenball. Poor Law Union—Rathdown. Electoral Division—Glencullen.

No. 1. Constabulary District—Bray. Area of Townland in Statute Acres, . . . 684.

Names of all Landholders in this Townland.	Area of each Holding in Statute Acres.	EXTENT OF LAND UNDER CROPS IN STATUTE ACRES, AND PARTS OF STATUTE ACRES																								Names of Parties from whom the information was received.
		Wheat.	Oats.	Barley.	Bere.	Rye.	Beans.	Peas.	Potatoes.	Turnips.	Mangel Wurzel.	Beet Root.	Carrots.	Parsnips.	Cabbage.	Vetches.	Other Green Crops.	Flax.	Hops.	Meadow and Clover.	Total extent under Crops.	Grass.	Woods or Plantations.	Fallow and uncropped Arable Land.	Bog or Waste.	Total of Grass, Woods, &c.	
James Moran,	105	5	10	8	7	8½	3	2	9	4½	3¾	–	4	3	–	–	–	5	–	6	79¾	20	–	5	6¼	31¼	Mrs. Moran.
Henry May,	216	15	33	30	10	11	5	5	30	12	12	–	5	–	–	–	–	4	–	20	192	20	–	1	3	24	H. May
Wm Robinson,	20	–	5	–	–	–	1	½	2	2	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	½	–	6	16	1½	–	–	½	2	W. Robinson.
John Mooney,	66	5	8	3	3	1	5	–	5	7	7	–	–	2	¾	–	–	1½	–	8	56¼	8	–	–	1¾	9¾	Mooneyites.
John Thompson,	127	7	9	5	5	6	7	1	10	3	6	–	2	3	5	–	–	6	–	12	87	30	2	2	6	40	J. Thompson.
James Byrne,	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	Jas. Byrne.
Waste, unallotted,	150	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	150	150	Observation.
Total,	684	32	65	46	25	21½	21	8½	56	28½	28¾	–	11	8½	6¼	–	–	17	–	52	427	79½	2	8	167½	257	

I Certify that I visited the Townland of BALLYMORAN, on the 2nd day of June, 1856, for the purpose of obtaining the above information, and that this Return is correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Dated at Enniskerry, this 7th day of June, 1856.

[*Signature and Rank of Enumerator*] JOSEPH SCULLY, Constable.

Form B.

RETURN OF LIVE STOCK, 1856.

Townland—BALLYMORAN.

County—Wicklow. Barony—Rathdown. *Nearest Post Town to this Townland*— GOLDENBALL. Parish—Goldenball. Poor Law Union—Rathdown. Electoral Division—Glencullen.

No. 1. Constabulary District—Bray. Area of Townland in Statute Acres, ... 684.

Names of All Landholders in this Townland; also of Stock owners, whose Stock may not be at grass. The number of Stock belonging to each person should be entered opposite to the Name. (See Note at foot.)	Area of each Holding in Statute Acres.	HORSES, *with the purposes for which they are kept.* Two years old and upwards. Agricultural	Traffic and Manufactures	Amusement or Recreation	One year old and under two.	Under one year.	Total Number of Horses.	Mules and Asses. No. of Mules.	No. of Asses.	CATTLE. Milch Cows.	Two years old and upwards	One year old and under two	Under one year	Total Number of Cattle.	SHEEP. Ewes.	Tups & Wethers.	Under one year.	Total Number of Sheep	PIGS. One year old and upwards.	Under one year.	Total Number of Pigs.	No. of Goats.	No. of Poultry.	Name and Address of Person from whom Enumerator received information. If inserted on his own knowledge or observation, to be so stated.	Name of the Owner to Fee or Head Landlord.
James Moran,	105	1	–	1	1	2	5	–	1	–	4	1	2	7	8	4	5	17	6	6	12	2	36	Owner.	John Smith
Henry May,	216	3	–	–	2	2	7	1	–	2	10	2	5	19	8	7	3	18	2	7	9	–	30	"	do.
William Robinson,	20	1	–	–	–	–	1	–	1	–	3	–	–	3	–	–	–	–	1	3	4	1	10	Observation.	do.
John Mooney,	66	1	1	–	1	–	3	–	–	1	3	1	3	8	3	4	7	14	2	6	8	–	25	Owner.	do.
John Thompson,	127	1	1	3	1	3	9	1	–	1	4	2	4	11	25	13	11	51	7	10	17	2	60	John Kelly, Goldenball, Bailiff to the Estate.	do.
James Byrne,	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	1	1	6	Observation.	do.
Waste, unallotted,	150	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–		
Total,	684	7	2	4	5	7	25	2	3	4	24	6	14	48	49	30	26	105	18	33	51	6	167		

NOTE.—The Enumerator is to enter all *Grazing Stock* as if belonging to the owner of that particular Farm on which it is grazing.

I Certify that I visited the Townland of BALLYMORAN, on the 2nd day of June, 1856, for the purpose of obtaining the above information, and that this Return is correct, to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Dated at Enniskerry, this 7th day of June, 1856.

[*Signature and Rank of Enumerator*] JOSEPH SCULLY, Constable.

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AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS—IRELAND.

Return of Tillage, 1856.

Form A.

County _____ Townland _____ Parish _____
Barony _____ Nearest Post Town to this Townland _____ Poor Law Union _____
No. _____ Constabulary District _____ Area of Townland in Statute Acres _____ Electoral Division _____

Names of all Landholders in this Townland.	Area of each Holding in Statute Acres.	Extent of Ground under Crops, in Statute Acres and Parts of Statute Acres.																									Names of Persons from whom the information was received.
		Wheat.	Oats.	Barley.	Bere.	Rye.	Beans.	Peas.	Potatoes.	Turnips.	Mangel Wurzel	Beet Root.	Carrots.	Parsnips.	Cabbages.	Vetches.	Other Green Crops.	Flax.	Rape.	Meadow and Clover.	Total extent under Crops.	Grass.	Woodland Plantations.	Fallow and Unoccupied Arable Land.	Bog or Waste.	Total of Grass, Woods, Fallow, Bog, &c.	
Total, . .																											

I certify that I visited the Townland of _____, on the _____ day of _____, 1856, for the purpose of obtaining the above information, and that this Return is correct, to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Dated at _____, this _____ day of _____, 1856.

Signature and Rank of Enumerator _____

Approved. Thos. A. Larcom. William Donnelly, *Registrar-General.*

AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS—IRELAND.

Return of Live Stock, 1856.

Form B.

County _____ Townland _____ Parish _____
Barony _____ Nearest Post Town to this Townland _____ Poor Law Union _____
No. _____ Constabulary District _____ Area of Townland in Statute Acres _____ Electoral Division _____

Names of All Landholders in this Townland, also of Stakeowners whose Stock may not be at grass. The Number of Stock belonging to each person should be entered opposite to the Name. (See Note at foot.)	Area of each Holding in Statute Acres.	Horses, with the purposes for which they are kept.						Mules and Asses.		Cattle.					Sheep.				Pigs.			Number of Goats.	Number of Poultry.	Name and Address of Persons from whom Enumerator received the information.	Name of Owner in Fee or Head Landlord.
		Two years old and upwards.									Other Cattle.				One year old and upwards.										
		Agricultural.	Traffic and Manufactures.	Amusement or Recreation.	One year old and under two years.	Under one year.	Total Number of Horses.	Number of Mules.	Number of Asses.	Milch Cows.	Two years old and upwards.	One year old and under two years.	Under one year.	Total Number of Cattle.	Ewes.	Tups and Wethers.	Under one year.	Total Number of Sheep.	One year old & upwards.	Under one year.	Total Number of Pigs.				
Total, . .																									

Note.—The Enumerator is to enter all *Grazing Stock* as if belonging to the Owner of that particular Farm on which it is grazing.

I certify that I visited the Townland of _____, on the _____ day of _____, 1856, for the purpose of obtaining the above information, and that this Return is correct, to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Dated at _____, this _____ day of _____, 1856.

Signature and Rank of Enumerator _____

Approved, Thos. A. Larcom. William Donnelly, *Registrar-General.*

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COPIES OF LETTERS ADDRESSED TO VARIOUS PUBLIC FUNCTIONARIES BY THE REGISTRAR-GENERAL, WITH A VIEW TO THE DESTRUCTION OF WEEDS IN IRELAND.

No. 1.

Agricultural Statistics Office,
5, *Henrietta-street, Dublin,*
21*st February*, 1856.

My Lord,

I beg to state that in connexion with Agricultural Statistics, I have, with the sanction of the Government, for some years past, procured Returns from every Constabulary District in Ireland, which unfortunately exhibit a great prevalence of Weeds, not only on large tracts of land, *but also along the sides of Public Roads*, in almost every County.

I enclose a Copy of the Form on which this information has been furnished to me by the Enumerators; and the results are given in my Report on Agricultural Statistics, for 1854, a copy of which I had the pleasure of presenting to your Lordship,—(*Vide* pp. xxi, xxii, xxiii.)

I annex the Copy of a Resolution setting forth the injury arising from the *growth of Weeds along the sides of Public Roads*, which was addressed in 1854, to the Grand Jury of each County, by the Royal Agricultural Improvement Society.

My reason for now bringing these circumstances under your notice, is, respectfully to solicit that on public grounds, and as tending to a great social improvement, *your Lordship may, perhaps, be pleased, at the approaching Assizes, to direct the attention of the Grand Juries, and County Surveyors*, to an object which is calculated to be of much benefit to the Farming Classes of Ireland.

Trusting that you will pardon the liberty which I take in addressing you on this subject,

I have the honour to be, your Lordship's faithful servant,

William Donnelly, *Registrar-General.*

To the Right Honourable
Judge ———,
&c., &c.

Enclosure.

42, *Upper Sackville-street, Dublin,*
21*st February*, 1854.

At a very full Meeting of the Managing Committee of the Royal Agricultural Improvement Society of Ireland, held this day—(upon the motion of Mr. Donnelly),

It was unanimously Resolved—

"That, as great injury arises to the Farming Classes in this country from the growth of Weeds along the sides of Public Roads, whose Seeds being allowed to Ripen and Shed, are spread over the adjoining lands,

"A Circular be immediately addressed to the Grand Juries of the several counties, soliciting them to give directions to the County Surveyors to make it imperative upon Road Contractors to cut down and remove all Weeds, more particularly Thistles, Docks, and Rag Weeds, *before the 1st of June, and at such other periods in the year* as may prevent their injurious effects to the Farmer."

Henry Hall, (Colonel, C.B.,) *Chairman.*

No. 2.

Agricultural Statistics Office,
5, *Henrietta-street, Dublin,*
July 7th, 1856.

My Lord,

With reference to my letter of the 21st of February last, asking your Lordship to be so good as to direct the attention of Grand Juries and County Surveyors to the pernicious growth of Weeds which is permitted along the sides of Public Roads, greatly to the injury of the Farming Classes of Ireland, I now take the liberty of enclosing the Copy of a Circular addressed by me to all County Surveyors, in the hope that your Lordship may be pleased at the present Assizes to bring the subject before the several Grand Juries with a view to the introduction of a Covenant into all Road Contracts requiring the destruction of Weeds along the sides of the Public Highways of the Country.

Trusting that you will pardon this liberty,

I am, your Lordship's faithful servant,

(Signed) William Donnelly, *Registrar-General.*

The Right Honourable
Judge ———,
&c., &c.

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No. 3.

Agricultural Statistics Office,
5, Henrietta-street, Dublin,
5th July, 1856.

SIR,

As it is now universally admitted that great injury arises to the Farming Classes in Ireland, from the growth of Weeds along the sides of Public Roads—Railways and Canals—and the shedding of their seeds over the adjoining lands, and as you are probably aware, that the attention of many of the Grand Juries and County Surveyors was directed to the subject by the Judges of Assize at the last Spring Circuit, I take the liberty of addressing you, in the hope, that in your official capacity as Surveyor of the County of _____, you will obtain the authority of the Grand Jury at the present Assizes, in order that a special Covenant may be introduced into all Road Contracts, requiring the destruction of Weeds on the sides of the Highways under your supervision. I beg here to inform you that the Lord Lieutenant considered the removal of Weeds *not only from Farms*, but also from the sides of all Public Roads, of so much general importance, that His Excellency was pleased to refer to the subject at a recent Agricultural Meeting of the Royal Dublin Society. Annexed is a table, taken from my Report on Agricultural Statistics in 1854, which shows the great prevalence of Weeds on Road sides:—

The degree in which Weeds prevailed on the sides of Roads, Railways, and Canals, is shown in *four* classes: in the first, the proportion *kept generally free* from Weeds is given; the second shows the proportion in which the removal of Weeds was *only partially* attended to; the third, the proportion in which this useful labour was *almost entirely omitted;* and the fourth class, that in which it was *wholly neglected.* According to the Returns received by me, the proportion under each of these classes is shown for 1853 and 1854, by Provinces:—

PROVINCES.	ROAD SIDES, &c.							
	First Class.		Second Class.		Third Class.		Fourth Class.	
	1853.	1854.	1853	1854.	1853.	1854.	1853.	1854
	Proportion per cent.	Proportion per cent.	Proportion per cent.	Proportion per cent.	Proportion per cent.	Proportion per cent.	Proportion per cent.	Proportion per cent.
Leinster, . .	27	25	27	16	16	9	30	50
Munster, . .	24	17	30	17	19	9	27	57
Ulster, . .	23	18	30	25	26	17	21	40
Connaught, .	18	14	25	16	19	9	38	61
Ireland, .	24	18	28	19	19	11	29	52

The following is an extract from a Notice, addressed to Road Contractors by a County Surveyor of Ulster,—in which the destruction of Weeds is specially referred to in the Specification as *one of the conditions of the Contract.*

"*Road Contractors will please take notice that no certificates will be granted, unless their Roads have been kept in repair in accordance with the following specification.*"

* * * * * * * * * * *

"*The Roads, Footpaths, and Fences, must be kept free from Weeds.*"

* * * * * * * * * * *

On Public Grounds, and more especially on account of the benefit which will arise to the Farming Classes of Ireland,—who so largely contribute to the maintenance of Public Roads,—I trust you will excuse my addressing you on this subject.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
WILLIAM DONNELLY, *Registrar-General.*

To ———
The County Surveyor
of ————.

OBSERVATION MADE ON THE FOREGOING SUBJECT BY THE MASTERS IN CHANCERY:—

"We beg leave strongly to recommend this matter to the consideration of the Receiver Master, our brother, Master Lyle."

WILLIAM HENN, EDWARD LITTON,
WILLIAM BROOKE, J. J. MURPHY.

July 19, 1856.
[I subsequently received the approval of Master Lyle personally.]—W. D.

No. 4.

Agricultural Statistics Office,
5, Henrietta-street, Dublin,
24th July, 1856.

GENTLEMEN,

May I take the liberty of requesting your attention to the accompanying Circular, addressed by me to the County Surveyors, relative to the destruction of Weeds along the sides of Public Roads in Ireland.

A copy of this Circular was forwarded by me to each Judge of Assize, Grand Jury, and Clerk of the Crown, for every County, previous to the late Circuit,—and it has, I am happy to state, been very favourably received,—the importance of the subject to the farming classes having been brought under the notice of the Grand Juries by their Lord-

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ships the Judges, in a very marked manner,—and I am informed that in future a special covenant will be introduced into Road Contracts, in those Counties in which the practice has not hitherto existed, requiring the Contractors to destroy all Weeds along the Sides and Fences of the Roads under their care.

I confidently trust that, on public grounds, you will excuse my addressing you on this subject, and that you will be so good as to give directions to have all Weeds *immediately* removed which may be found growing on the sides, embankments, cuttings, and fences of the Railway under your control, and thus aid in conferring a great benefit on the farming classes of the country, as it is scarcely necessary for me to observe, that the shedding of the *seeds* of Thistles, Dock, Ragweed, and other noxious plants,—which are now *fast approaching to maturity*,—must cause great injury to the occupiers of land adjoining those Railways along which this most useful labour has been hitherto omitted.

I am, Gentlemen, your faithful servant,

To the Chairman and Directors of the ——— Railway. WILLIAM DONNELLY, *Registrar-General.*

No. 5.

Agricultural Statistics Office,
5, Henrietta-street, Dublin,
10th July, 1856.

SIR,

Referring to my conversation with you on the 5th instant, I beg to enclose the copy of a letter addressed by me to the Judges of Assize, and also the copy of a Circular to the Surveyor of each County, pointing out the great importance of the destruction of Weeds along the sides of Highways,—I am happy to add that these have been most favourably received in every quarter.

As this, I think, may be considered a subject of National interest, it occurred to me, as I have already stated to you, that the Irish farmers would be greatly benefited if their children who attend the National Schools were impressed with the feeling that the growth of Weeds is most injurious to a proper system of cultivation; and that the pupils of these schools should be requested by their Teachers to destroy all Weeds found growing on the farms of their parents.

As I understood you to concur with me in the importance of the subject, may I request you will be so good as to bring it under the notice of the Commissioners of National Education, at their meeting to-morrow, in order to obtain their approval to directions being given to the Inspectors of your Schools, to call the attention of the Teachers, not only of the Agricultural, but also of all other Schools in connexion with the Board of National Education, to the great benefit certain to arise to the farming classes of Ireland, by instructing the pupils as to the necessity of destroying Weeds. I need scarcely add, that the seeds of Thistles and all other noxious Weeds are now fast advancing to maturity.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

To the Right Honourable Alex. MacDonnell, &c., &c. (Signed) WILLIAM DONNELLY, *Registrar-General.*

REPLY.

Office of National Education,
21st August, 1856.

SIR,

We have had the honour of laying before the Commissioners of National Education, your letters of the 10th July and 18th instant, relative to the great importance of the destruction of Weeds along the sides of Highways.

We are directed to state in reply, that the Commissioners cordially approve of the suggestion you have made, that *the children attending the National Schools should be instructed by their respective Teachers as to the necessity of destroying all Weeds found on the farms of their parents, or on the Highways adjacent thereto.*

The Commissioners will, therefore, have much satisfaction in pointing out to their Inspectors the steps necessary to be taken for carrying your suggestion into effect.

We are, Sir, your obedient servants,

MAURICE CROSS, JAMES KELLY, } *Secretaries.*

William Donnelly, Esq., Registrar-General,
Agricultural Statistics Office,
5, Henrietta-street, Dublin.

[The number of pupils attending National Schools exceeds *half a million.*]

No. 6.

Church Education Society for Ireland,
Kildare-street, Dublin,
28th August, 1856.

SIR,

In accordance with your request to the Rev. Alexander Leeper, (Chaplain to the Society,) relative to the importance of destroying weeds along the sides of highways, &c., your letter of the 22nd instant was laid before the Committee of the Church Education Society. I am directed, in reply, to state *that the Committee very cordially approve of your suggestion that the children attending Church Education Schools should be*

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instructed by their teachers as to the necessity of destroying all weeds found on the farms of their parents, or on the highways adjoining thereto. The Committee will make the matter known to all their students under training for the post of teacher, as also to their inspectors, to whom they will give the necessary instructions.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

JOHN BANKS, R.N., *Assistant-Secretary.*

Wm. Donnelly, Esq., Registrar-General,
Agricultural Statistics Office,
5, Henrietta-street, Dublin.

[The number of children attending Church Education Schools exceeds *ninety thousand.*]

No. 7.

Poor Law Commission Office, Dublin,
5th August, 1856.

SIR,

The Commissioners for administering the Laws for the Relief of the Poor in Ireland acknowledge with thanks the receipt of your letter of the 31st ultimo, transmitting copies of two circulars issued by you, one addressed to County Surveyors, and the other to the Directors of Railways and Canals in Ireland, relative to the destruction of Weeds; and the Commissioners desire to inform you that they have directed that copies of your letter, and of the circulars which accompanied it, be transmitted to the Boards of Guardians of the several Unions in Ireland, and that their attention be called to your suggestion, that the children in the workhouse schools should be instructed as to the injury arising from, and the necessity for destroying, Weeds on the farms upon which, in after life, they may be employed.

By Order of the Commissioners,

B. BANKS, *Chief Clerk.*

William Donnelly, Esq.,
Agricultural Statistics Office,
5, Henrietta-street.

No. 8.

Office of Public Works, Dublin,
4th August, 1856.

SIR,

I am directed by the Commissioners of Public Works to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 31st ultimo, respecting the destruction of Weeds growing on embankments, or heaps of earth formed during the progress of works under the control of this department, and, in reply, to acquaint you that the Commissioners will be happy to co-operate in carrying out the very desirable object contemplated by you, and will issue instructions to their officers accordingly.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

E. HORNSBY, *Secretary.*

William Donnelly, Esq., Registrar-General,
Agricultural Statistics Office,
5, Henrietta-street.

No. 9.

Board-room of the Governors of the Schools
founded by Erasmus Smith, Esq.,
11, Kildare-street.
13th September, 1856.

SIR,

In reply to your letter, dated 5th instant, I beg to say that the Governors have ordered a circular to be addressed to their teachers, directing them to carry out your suggestion, that the pupils attending the Governors' Schools should be instructed as to the necessity for destroying weeds on the farms of their parents and elsewhere.

I have the honour to be, your obedient servant,

EUSTACE THORP, *Assistant-Registrar.*

Wm. Donnelly, Esq., Registrar-General,
Agricultural Statistics Office,
5, Henrietta-street.

NOTE.

In the years 1853, 1854, and 1855, Circulars were addressed by me to the Magistracy, Clergy of all Denominations, and other influential parties throughout Ireland, explaining the object of collecting Agricultural Statistics, and soliciting their assistance in the removal of prejudices opposed to these inquiries.

W. D.

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